

VZCZCXRO7190
OO RUEHLH RUEHPW
DE RUEHIL #2802/01 2361412
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 231412Z AUG 08
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8460
INFO RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 9032
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 8551
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 3669
RUEHKE/AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY 0202
RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY 5942
RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY 4743
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUMICEA/USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
RHWSMRC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEHIL/ODRP ISLAMABAD PK PRIORITY

Saturday, 23 August 2008, 14:12
C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 ISLAMABAD 002802
SIPDIS

EO 12958 DECL: 08/23/2018
TAGS FREL, PTER, PGOV, EAID, PK
SUBJECT: IMMUNITY FOR MUSHARRAF LIKELY AFTER ZARDARI'S
ELECTION AS PRESIDENT
REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 2742 (B) ISLAMABAD 2741

Classified By: Anne W. Patterson, for reasons 1.4 (b)(d)

1. (C) Summary. In separate meetings with Asif Zardari, PM Gilani and Chief of Army Staff Kayani, Ambassador pressed for quick action on immu
2. (C) Ambassador met with Pakistan People's Party (PPP) leader Asif Zardari on August 23, with PM Gilani on August 21, and with COAS Kayani c
3. (C) Zardari told Ambassador August 23 that he was committed to indemnity for Musharraf. Ambassador stressed that only the promise of indem
5. (C) Zardari said he did not think Nawaz would leave the coalition, but he admitted the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz had become increasingly
Kayani Worried

16. (C) After an August 20 meeting with visiting S/CT Coordinator Dell Dailey, Kayani asked Ambassador to stay behind and discuss his concerns
ISLAMABAD 00002802 002 OF 003
Musharraf,s immunity bill. Kayani had heard the large meeting of coalition partners (chaired August 19 by the newly returned Bilawal Bhutto) ha
17. (C) As post earlier reported (Reftels), Kayani said he took Zardari,s commitments to now ex-President Musharraf as the most important argu
Gilani on Immunity, Bajaur, Subsidies

18. (C) Ambassador met with PM Gilani and Interior Minister Rehman Malik for thirty minutes August 21, after a graduation ceremony for U.S. tra
19. (C) Gilani said the PPP was going to provide immunity for ex-President Musharraf, but timing was important. They were afraid that putting f
10. (C) Regarding the ongoing military operation on Bajaur (in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas), Gilani assured Ambassador that it wil
11. (C) Malik suggested we hold off alleged Predator attacks until after the Bajaur operation. The PM brushed aside Rehman,s remarks and said
12. (C) Gilani said it would be almost politically impossible to reduce fuel subsidies (raise prices) in the short term along the lines Deputy
13. (C) Comment: Nawaz may increasingly be considering leaving the coalition in the center and consolidating his hold in the Punjab because he
ISLAMABAD 00002802 003 OF 003
challenging their ability to run as candidates in the National and Punjab Assemblies respectively. Until he can sit in the National Assembly, N
PATTERSON